

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A real-time operating system (RTOS) for use with minimal-memory
controllers has a kernel for managing task execution, including context
switching, a plurality of defined tasks, individual ones of the tasks having
subroutines callable in nested levels for accomplishing tasks. In the RTOS
context switching is constrained to occur only at task level, and cannot
10 occur at any lower sub-routine level. This system can operate with a single
call...return stack , saving memory requirement. The single stack can be
implemented as either a general-purpose stack or as a hardware call...return
stack. In other embodiments novel methods are taught for generating return
addresses, and for using timing functions in a RTOS.

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